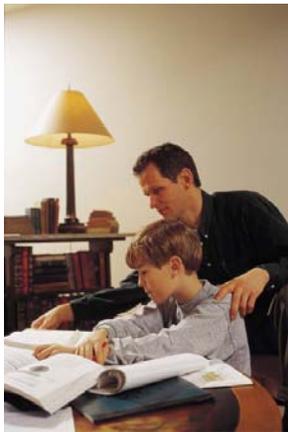




Cardinal Newman
Guidance Department

Homework

How Can Parents Help?



Why Homework?

Homework can develop your child's mind and skills, and reinforce learning. It can also help you keep up with what's happening at school.

Homework can:

- Improve your child's thinking and memory.
- Teach your child to take responsibility for his/her work.
- Encourage your child to use time wisely.
- Teach your child to work independently.

Teachers assign homework to help your child:

- Review and practice classroom lessons;
- Get ready for the next day's class;
- Learn to use resources such as libraries, reference materials and the Internet;
- Explore subjects more fully than classroom time permits;
- Extend learning by applying skills to new situations.

When you help your child with his homework, you can find out what your child is learning, and spark your child's enthusiasm.

How Can I Help With Homework?

- Show that you think education and homework are important.
- Set a regular time for homework.
- Set a quiet, well-lit homework area.
- Provide essential supplies such as pencils, pens, erasers, writing paper and a dictionary. Other supplies such as a stapler, scissors, paste, ruler, calculator may also be required.
- Show your child how what he or she learns in school applies to the adult world. Let them see you reading, writing, using math and doing other things that require thought and effort. Talk to your child about what you do at work.
- Talk about school and learning activities in family conversations. Ask your child what was discussed in class that day.
- Attend school activities such as parent-teacher interviews and athletic events.
- Look over completed assignments before your child turns them in, and read the teacher's comments on graded homework.

How Do I Encourage Good Study Habits?



Good study habits will benefit your child throughout his or her life.

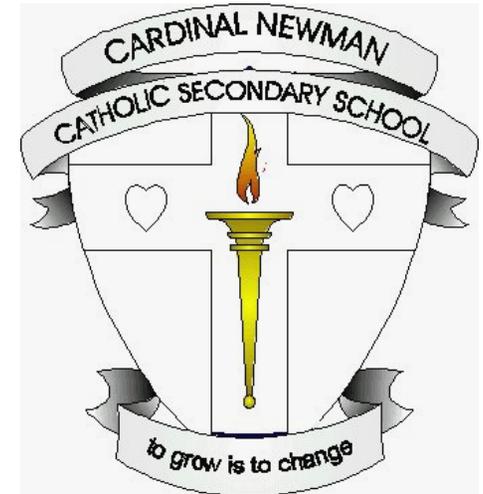
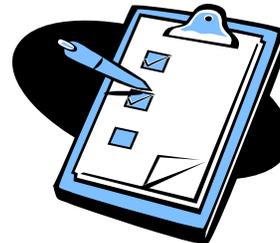
You can help develop them if you:

- Don't do your child's homework . Your child will understand information better if he or she does it herself. It will also boost his or her confidence in their own abilities.
- Help your child make a study schedule to keep track of assignment due dates. Encourage daily use of their agenda book.
- Help your child manage time. School and leisure activities need to be balanced.
- Help your child get started on research reports or other big assignments. Take him/her to the library.
- Help your child with reviews, allow them to practice presentations on you, and give practice tests.
- Avoid linking rewards or punishment to school performance. Avoid external motivators for performance, Instead parents should emphasize the value of learning .

Parent Checklist

Do you:

- Set a regular time for homework?
- Provide your child with the papers, pencils and other items needed to complete assignments.
- Provide a well-lit, quiet place to study?
- Set a good example by showing your child you care about the skills he or she is learning and are part of adult life?
- Stay in touch with your child's teacher?
- Know what your child's homework assignments are?
- Make sure the television is turned off while your child does homework.?
- Help your child get organized?
- Encourage your child to develop good study habits?
- Talk to your child about homework assignments?
- Help/advise and promote independent learning?
- Help, but DO NOT DUE your child's homework.



**For Further Information
Contact
Cardinal Newman's Guidance
Department
(905) 664-3383 x358**